

December 26, 2016

Dear Plan Participant,

I am pleased to announce that the Board of Trustees of District Council 1707 Health & Benefit Fund has approved an increase to the current optical benefit. Beginning on January 1, 2017, the new benefit increases the Plan allowance for an eye examination, frame choice selection and other enhanced services. This new benefit is available to all eligible enrolled participants every 24 months from the date that services are received, however for the new calendar year only this rule has been waived.

The Fund will continue to utilize our panel of providers thru CPS Optical, Vision Screening and General Vision Service and National Optical networks. When you utilize one of these providers you will maximize the value of the benefit. To request an optical voucher for services and locations of participating providers please contact the Fund office at telephone (212)- 334- 0096.

The Trustees reserve the right to amend, modify or discontinue all or part of the Plan whenever, in their judgment, conditions so warrant. The Trustees of this Plan believe that it is a "grandfathered health plan" under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, as amended (the "Affordable Care Act"). As permitted by the Affordable Care Act, a grandfathered health plan can preserve certain basic health coverage that was already in effect when that law was enacted. Being a grandfathered health plan means that this Plan may not include certain consumer protections of the Affordable Care Act that apply to other plans, for example, the requirement for the provision of preventative health services without any cost sharing. However, grandfathered health plans must comply with certain other consumer protections in the Affordable Care Act, for example, the elimination of lifetime limits on benefits.

Questions regarding which protections apply and which protections do not apply to a grandfathered health plan and what might cause a plan to change from grandfathered health plan status can be directed to the Fund Office at (212) 343-1660. You may also contact the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor at 1-866-444-3272 or www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform. This website has a table summarizing which protections do and do not apply to grandfathered health plans.

Sincerely,

Randy S. Paul
Fund Manager